

Elsenham Rights of Way & Open Spaces Committee

Committee Meeting

Friday 18th November 2022 2pm
in Elsenham Memorial Hall

Present:

Graham Mott (GM) (Elsenham Parish Council EPC, P3 rep)
Stewart Pimblett (SP)
Heather Salvidge (HS) (Tree Warden)
Margaret Shaw (MS) (Secretary)
Dave Verlander (DV)
Sue Waite (SW) (EPC)
Kevin Wood (KW)

GM chaired the meeting.

Apologies:

Paul Salvidge (PS)

Not present:

Bianca Donald (BD) EPC)

Declarations of Interest:

MS/SW/DV (Trustees of Elsenham Memorial Hall)
DV resident of Broom Farm Road

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 30th September 2022

The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record.
GM will deliver a signed copy to Louise Johnson (LJ) (EPC Clerk.)
MS will forward an electronic copy to LJ.
GM will pass draft minutes onto the EPC website manager.

Action: GM / MS

Matters Arising from meeting held on 30th September not on Agenda

P3 LJ has applied to ECC for repayment of Brush Cutter course fees - but they have not yet been received.

Parish Council Chairman's report

UTT/21/2461/DFO Land To The West Of Isabel Drive Elsenham on two sites.
(FP31 & FP32) (Dandara Eastern 99 homes)
Detailed Planning application has been delayed due to input from UDC.

UTT/19/0462/FUL Land West Of Hall Road (FP13) (Bovis Homes 130 homes)
Work has not yet started.

UTT/21/3269/DFO - Land To The North West Of Henham Road

(FP21 Elsenham) (Bloor Homes 350 homes)
Ongoing

UTT/20/2908/OP Land South of Bedwell Road

(FP29 Ugley) (Rochester Properties 50 homes)
No appeal submitted yet. FP29 Ugley still difficult to navigate.

UTT/19/0437/OP Rush Lane

(FP29 Elsenham) Detailed planning application still awaited.

PINS Section 62A Application: S62A/22/0007 Land to the South of Henham Road

(FP13 Elsenham) (Country Side Properties 130 Homes)
PINS are consulting further.

Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/2022/0012 - Land East of Station Road, Elsenham

(FP15 Henham) (Bloor Homes 200 houses adjacent to UTT/21/3269/DFO)
Proposed site stops short of FP15 Henham

Open Spaces

Spinney Wildflower Area

Needs further strim HS to arrange working party.

Action: HS / KW

Spinney

The Flower Beds committee suggested planting bulbs in the spinney (email 14/10/22).
There were no objections.

Some winter heliotrope has been moved alongside FP38 from Leigh Way.

The North Western section will need some professional reduction work over the winter.
SP/PS/HS to decide what needs doing and ask LJ to go out to tender.
They will also decide if a volunteer working party will be required in early 2023.

Action: PS / HS / SP

New Road Wildflower Area

A detailed plan is still awaited from Ben Brown (UDC Environmental Services).
When received a baseline survey of the sites will be undertaken.

Action: HS / KW / SW

Wildflower Triangle on Playing Field

Winter heliotrope has been moved from Leigh Way.

The area will need to be strimmed.

HS will organise a working party.

Action: HS

Oziers Green

A resident has raised the problem of other residents parking on the Green. It will be difficult to dissuade people from parking there if there is nowhere else for them to park.

HS/SW/DV/GM have inspected the site.

11 spaces on rough concrete are privately allocated.

SW suggested that we extend the roadway to accommodate parking & then surround the remaining area with fencing or planting.

MS to ask LJ to contact Essex Highways to discuss feasibility of extending roadway into the grassed area; to ask Highways who owns the concrete area; to send a response to the

complainant.

Action: MS / LJ

UDC Tree Planting Initiative

MS to ask LJ to reply to the email from Ben Smeeden 9/9/22 and ask: for a replacement for the dead Horse Chestnut in the green space outside Gilbey Cottages: and a replacement for the missing tree outside Gilbey Cottages;

(This land is owned by Essex Highways so it will need to be approved by them.) and hedging to be planted around the substation on Oziers Green (on Parish Council Land); and hedging to be planted alongside the refurbished children playground where it abuts the car park, also on PC land.

Action: MS/ LJ

Rights of Way

FP4 / FP18 / BW33

Ned Gemmill (ECC PRoW Officer) (NG) reports that Simon Taylor (ECC Enforcement Officer) (ST) is expecting the gates to be installed imminently.

FP12 near the BOAT

SP has cleared the fallen crab apple tree. Thank You.

FP13 at Fullers End

MS will contact Essex Highways to remind them that it is their duty to reinstate the Public Footpath sign at Fullers End.

Action: MS

FP13 at Hall Road

This is not usable. EPC will discuss with developers and remind them that the path needs to be reinstated.

Action: GM

FP17; FP22; FP26; FP28

These paths were all on the Cutting Schdeule and missed by the contractor. Following our request to NG they have all been cut to a reasonable standard.

FP21 between the Crown & the old Cricket Pitch ref 2793515.

The landowner has refused to remove the cut down telegraph poles at either end. This has now been referred to ST the ECC Enforcement Officer.

FP22 / FP15 Henham ref 2662891

The path has now been cleared but further Badger activity has taken place. NG is meeting with the Badger Group on 23/11/22 at 10am. HS will join them. MS will ask for details of meeting place.

Action: MS / HS

FP11 Ugley ref 2804272

GM has reported 2 x tree that have fallen across this path. As this was planned to be on the route of the Boxing Day walk MS will chase.

Action: MS

Erowos budget 2023-2024

Our current budget (mainly for annual work on the Spinney) is £1800. EPC Finance Committee has provisionally allocated us £2000 for next year, which will be adequate for our needs.

Hedge Cutting Contract

LJ obtained 3 quotes. The contract for this year has been awarded to Mr. Maskall. GM will monitor the work when completed before the invoice is paid.

Action: GM

MS has submitted an article to Elsenham News mentioning the Hedge Cutting & asking residents to cut back their own hedges where they overhang the footway.

Tree Warden's Reports

HS has reported several occurrences of Honey Fungus to ECC & UDC.

HS has been working with the archaeologists employed by Dandara to identify remnants of constructions found on their site.

HS has been cutting back overhang along Station Road.

The dead Silver Birch in the Memorial Garden will need to be removed - EPC will organise

The owner of the land at the corner of Broom Farm Road & Elm Close has been identified.

DV will contact them about the distressed oak tree.

Action: DV / GM

Rush Lane - there are 2 trees in the hedge that are preventing ECC Highways from repairing the street lights. LJ is contacting with the landowner.

Action: LJ

Village Walks

Boxing Day Walk Monday 26th December 11am (Playing Field Top Car Park)

People at start and end should wear High Viz.

GM will organise route & lead.

MS has organised an article for the village magazine and updated website.

MS will organise posters for notice boards.

MS will circulate to Elsenham Walkers mailing list and Henham & Elsenham Newline on Facebook.

DV, who is not walking, will be available to come and collect anybody who is taken ill.

SP to organise 2-way radios.

Action: GM / MS / DV / SP / All

AOB

LJ contacted Estate Agents that have placed advertising boards on De Mandeville Green and asked them to desist. They are still there. MS to ask LJ to pursue.

Action: MS/ LJ

Next meeting

Friday 17th February 2022 2pm in the Memorial Hall. MS to book.

Action: MS / ALL